

BRIDGNORTH RURAL DISTRICT.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, for the year 1942.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year ending 31st December, 1942.

Public Health Officers of the Authority:-  
Medical Officer of Health; L.E. Dickson, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Part time.)  
Public Analyst; Mr. H. Lowe, Chester.  
Sanitary Inspector; Mr. D.C. Younger, M.R.S.I.

SECTION A.

Statistic and Social Conditions.

Area in acres.	101,040.
Registrar General's estimate of the resident population (mid-year 1942)	12,750.
Number of Inhabited Houses at 31st Dec. 1942, according to the Rate Books.	3,388.
Rateable value.	£49,756.
Sum represented by a 1d. rate	£233. 7.9.

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

Live Births.	Total.	M.	F.	
Legitimate.	216.	119.	97.	Birth rate per 1,000 of
Illegitimate.	12.	5.	7.	estimated population....
				17.8
Still Births.	5.	3.	3.	Rate per 1,000 total live & still births.
				25.6
Deaths.	118.	75.	43.	Death rate per 1,000 estimated population.
				9.2
Deaths from puerperal causes.				None.
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:	Total 11.	Legitimate 9.	Illegitimate 2.	
All Infants per 1,000 live births				48.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births				41.6
Illegitimate " " illegitimate " "				166.6
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)				14
" " Measles " "				1
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)				Nil
" " Diphtheria (under 2 years.)				1

Sec. B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Public Health Officers - see above.

There have been no changes in the services provided in the area.

Sec. C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

~~Sec. B.~~ A report from your Sanitary Inspector is appended.

Sec. D. HOUSING.

No building schemes have been carried out during the year.

Hostels.

Four land workers' hostels have been established in the area accommodating in all 87 workers, some male and some female.

New Houses.

Three houses were built during the year.

Sec. E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

There has been no change in the arrangement for slaughtering and distribution of meat.

A list of articles of food condemned as unfit for human consumption is given in the report of your Sanitary Inspector.

Sec. F. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

An epidemic of measles which affected Highley chiefly, occurred in the first six months of the year.

A small outbreak of diphtheria caused eight cases in September and necessitated the closure of Chelmarsh School. All except one were admitted

A small outbreak of diphtheria caused eight cases in September and necessitated the closure of Chelmarsh School. All except one were admitted to hospital. There were no deaths. Two were immunised children. Four were not immunised and in the other two cases although they were stated to be immunised no records were to be found. The first cases occurred in a family who had been in close contact with a child who had been suffering from diphtheria from Feb. to June 1942.

#### Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

At the beginning of the year the work of immunisation against diphtheria was taken over by the County Authority, who also undertook the publicity campaign. Considerable progress was made and a large percentage of children of school age were immunised. Less success attended the efforts with regard to children of under-school age.

Free immunisation is now given to children of under-school age and school children up to 15 years of age, by Medical Officers of the County Authority, either at schools or Welfare Centres.

When parents or guardians of children of under-school age are unable to take the children to either of those places application may be made to the Medical Officer of the Local Authority to have the treatment given by a local medical practitioner.

#### Statistic for the year.

Numbers of children who completed the full course in the Authority's area between 1st Jan. & 31st Dec. 42.	Under 5 years.	Between 5 & 15 years.	Total.
	347.	414.	761.

Approximate estimated child population at 31.12.1942.	957.	2118.
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Percentage of the child population considered immunised at 31.12.1942.	50%	68%
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#### Scabies.

This disease continued to be prevalent throughout the year, but to a less degree than during 1941, and to a less degree at the end of the year than at the beginning.

#### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR, 1942.

Disease.	Total cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever.	19.	9.	0.
Diphtheria.	9.	8.	0.
Enteric Fever.	0.	0.	0.
Pneumonia.	16.	11.	6.
Puerperal Fever.	5.	2.	0.
Pyrexia.			
Erysipelas.	3.	1.	0.
Cerebrospinal Fever.	5.	2.	0.
Measles.	267.	13.	1.
Whooping Cough.	5.	0.	0.

#### ANALYSIS OF NOTIFIED CASES UNDER AGE GROUPS.

Age Group.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Pneumonia.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.
0-1 year.	1.	-	-	1.	8.	2.
1 year.	-	-	-	-	13	-
2 years.	1.	-	-	-	15	-
3 years.	-	-	-	-	21.	-
4 years.	-	-	-	-	14.	2.
5 years.	8	7	-	1	133.	-
10 years.	2	-	-	1.	39.	-
15 years.	3.	1.	-	7.	7.	-
20 years.	4.	-	5.	3.	14.	-
35 years.	-	-	-	1.	1.	-
45 years.	-	1.	-	1.	2.	-
65 years.	-	5.	-	1.	-	-

Age Group.	Cerebrospinal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Malaria.
0-1 year.	1.	1.	-
2 years.	1.	-	-
5 years.	-	1.	-
20 years.	3.	1.	1.

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1942. (See over)

# TUBERCULOSIS.

## NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1942.

Age Group.	Now Cases.				Respiratory.		Deaths.	
	Respiratory.		Non-Resp.				Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1.	-	-	1.	1.	-	-	-	-
5.	-	-	1.	1.	-	-	-	-
15.	3.	2.	1.	-	-	-	-	-
25.	5.	-	1.	1.	1.	-	1.	-
35.	1.	3.	-	-	-	-	-	-
45.	-	-	-	-	1.	-	-	-
Totals.	9.	5.	3.	3.	2.	-	1.	-

I have the honour to be

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

(signed) L.E. Dickson.

28th August, 1943.

## BRIDGNORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

### Sanitary Officer's Annual Report for the year ending December, 1942.

#### Complaints.

Forty-nine complaints were received during the year of different kinds, all of which were inspected, and where required, personal interviews were made on the different owners concerned, thereby having the necessary work carried out without any further action being taken by my Council.

#### Water Supplies.

During the year repairs of various natures have been carried out to two private wells and twelve public wells, so as to remedy the supplies from being inadequate and to protect the water from contamination.

#### Disinfection.

The number of places disinfected during the year after being occupied by patient suffering from infectious disease was - 21.

#### Food Inspection.

The following articles of food were condemned on inspection during the year as unfit for human consumption:-

1½ lb tin of Pork Sausage Meat.  
 6 lb tin of Chopped Ham.  
 8 lbs of Chopped Ham.  
 15 lbs of Cheese.  
 89 x 5 kilo. tins of Apricot pulp.  
 44 x 5 kilo. tins of Tomato Puree.  
 7 x ½ lb tins of Salmon.  
 16 x 15 oz. tins of Pilchards.  
 26 lbs of Smoked Bacon.  
 10 tins of Evaporated Milk.  
 8 cases of Prunes.  
 26 lbs of Bacon.  
 7 lbs of Cheese.  
 9 lbs of Bacon.  
 26 lbs of Bacon.  
 6 lbs of Chopped Ham.  
 7½ lbs of Butter.  
 6 lbs of Chopped Ham.  
 24 lbs of Sausage Meat.  
 16 x 24 oz tins of Sausage Meat.  
 14 lbs of Bacon.  
 2 x 23 lb tins of Luncheon Meat.  
 54 x 6 lb 20 oz tins of Apricot Pulp.

~~64 x 6 lb~~

#### Water Analysis.

During the year, no official samples of water have been taken.

have been removed by their respective owners after being notified informally or personally interviewed.

The Council's scavenging scheme for the Council houses at Highley has been carried out satisfactorily during the year.

The scavenging of the village of Alveley has been suspended for the duration of hostilities.

#### Swimming Pools.

There are two pools in the district, one at Swancote and one at The Nautical William, Alveley. These places are visited periodically during the year, and at no time was there any cause for complaint.

#### Dairies and Cowsheds.

There are 217 cowsheds and dairies on the register at the present time. During the year five applications have been received to be registered as producers of milk for sale under the Milk and Dairies Order.

The attention of producers and retailers of milk, when possible, has been called to the provisions of the Order in respect to the sanitary conditions in which these premises are required to be kept.

#### Bakeryhouses, Workshops and Workplaces.

These premises were periodically visited during the year, and except for requests for the annual limewashing, in accordance with the Order, no further action was found necessary.

#### Summary.

Total number of houses inspected for housing defects during the year (under the Public Health or Housing Acts) - 260. Number of inspections made for the purpose - 290.

(signed) .C.Younger.